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March 6, 2002

TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Attn: Amare Mengistu  
Patent Examining Corps  
Facsimile Center  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
  
FROM: Lea A. Nicholson  
  
OUR REF: 884.078US1  
  
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\* Please deliver to Examiner Amare Mengistu in Art Unit 2673. \*

Document(s) Transmitted: DRAFT PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FOR PRE-EXAMINATION INTERVIEW

Total pages of this transmission, including cover letter: 3 pgs. If you do NOT receive all of the pages described above, please telephone us at 612-373-6900, or fax us at 612-339-3061.

In re. Patent Application of: Jim A. Larson et al. Examiner: Amare Mengistu  
Serial No.: 09/211,942 Group Art Unit: 2673  
Filed: December 15, 1998 Docket No.: 884.078US1  
Title: POINTING DEVICE WITH INTEGRATED AUDIO INPUT

Dear Amare Mengistu:

I hope you enjoyed your day off today and were able to fix your car. Proposed amendments are enclosed for us to discuss at our pre-exam interview on Wednesday at 10 am. Thanks for agreeing to talk with me. Do you think these proposed amendments have any allowable subject matter over the art of record? What else can I do to help advance prosecution of the application and to get at least some claims allowed?

Best regards,  
Lea Nicholson  
612-371-2160

S/N 09/211,942PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jim A. Larson et al.

Examiner: Amare Mengistu

Serial No.: 09/211,942

Group Art Unit: 2673

Filed: December 15, 1998

Docket: 884.078US1

Title: POINTING DEVICE WITH INTEGRATED AUDIO INPUT

DRAFT PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FOR PRE-EXAMINATION INTERVIEW

The following draft preliminary amendments are only for discussion at the pre-examination interview; they are not for entry.

4. A personal digital assistant (PDA) system comprising:
  - a mobile personal digital assistant having a touch screen display for producing input signals in response to physical contact; and
  - an input stylus comprising:
    - a housing having a first end for providing physical contact with the touch screen, and an opposite second end;
    - a microphone located at the second end for receiving acoustical voice signals;
    - a transmitter located in the housing for transmitting electronic voice signals received by the microphone to the mobile personal digital assistant; and
    - a switch circuit for activating and deactivating both the microphone and the transmitter.
16. (New) A method for a personal computer (PC) to provide voice recognition processing to a personal digital assistant (PDA), comprising:
  - wirelessly transmitting, by a stylus to the PC via a touch screen on the PDA, received electronic voice signals;
  - wirelessly receiving, by the PC, the electronic voice signals;
  - performing, by the PC, voice recognition processing on the electronic voice signals to produce translated text;
  - wirelessly transmitting, by the PC to the PDA, the translated text; and
  - displaying at least part of the translated text on the PDA.
17. (New) The method as recited in claim 16, further comprising:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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storing electronic voice signals on the PDA when a stylus attempts to wirelessly transmit the electronic voice signals to the PC via a touch screen on the PDA, but the PC is not within communicating distance;

playing the stored electronic voice signals in place of displaying translated text on the PDA until the PC is within communicating distance; and

wirelessly transmitting the electronic voice signals from the PDA to the PC, once the PC is within communicating distance.